

TOWN OF ORANGE

6 PROSPECT STREET • ORANGE • MASSACHUSETTS • 01364

Declaration of Recess and Continuance of Jan. 7 Special Town Meeting to Jan. 16

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 10A and the provisions in Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, I declare the Orange Special Town Meeting scheduled for January 7, 2021 to be recessed and continued, as specified herein on this 30th day of December, 2020. In consultation with the Board of Selectmen, Health Agent, Town Administrator and Town Clerk, I have determined that a public health emergency may pose a risk for voters who would want to attend the January 7 town meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. at the town hall and called according to a warrant signed by the Board of Selectmen on December 16, 2020. The special town meeting warrant is posted at www.townoforange.org.

Given the public health concerns about holding an indoor meeting at the town hall, the January 7, 2021 special town meeting is hereby recessed and continued to Saturday, January 16, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the parking lot at Mahar Regional School. The town officials cited above agree that the town meeting can be held safely using this outdoor venue. The intent is to conduct a drive-in style town meeting where voters participate from their vehicles, with audio provided through a local FM radio transmitter, wireless microphones utilized for discussion, and colored cards disseminated to facilitate the voting process. Attendees will be required to wear masks.

The nature of the emergency prompting this recess and continuance declaration is the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus and in particular the rise in new cases in Orange over the past few weeks. The state Department of Public Health recently designated Orange as a high-risk COVID-19 community. In addition, Governor Charlie Baker has imposed new restrictions in Massachusetts to help stop the spread of the virus. The newly announced measures represent the latest COVID-19 restrictions, which were first introduced in conjunction with the governor's original declaration of a state of emergency on March 10, 2020.

The quorum for this special town meeting has been set at 25 voters, rather than the town's usual quorum requirement of 75 voters. The reduction in quorum for this specific special town meeting is based on a November 4, 2020 vote taken by the Board of Selectmen, with approval of the Moderator. This vote was taken in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020. Section 7(a) of Chapter 92 authorizes a town, by a vote of the Board of Selectmen, to reduce the number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum at any town meeting held while the governor's declaration of a state of emergency is in effect.

I also note in making this declaration that the governor's COVID-19 orders with respect to outdoor gatherings and events explicitly exempt municipal legislative bodies (i.e. special and annual town meetings).

M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 10A stipulates that in this type of public health or public safety emergency, the town moderator shall announce a declaration of recess and continuance as far in advance of the town meeting being continued as is practicable. The determination to proceed with an outside, drive-in style town meeting was made at a meeting of the Orange Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, December 23.

M.G.L. Chapter 39 Section 10A requires that the moderator prepare a notice of the declaration of recess and continuance and that it include the date, time and place of the continued meeting; the reason for the declaration; and the date and time the moderator announced the recess and continuance. In developing this declaration for posting to the town's website and sharing through social media and other communications channels, I am fulfilling those obligations. I will continue to consult with appropriate town officials in making further preparations for the special town meeting.

Given at Orange at
10:00 a.m. this 30th day of December, 2020.

Christopher J. Woodcock
Orange Town Moderator

TOWN OF ORANGE
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Special Town Meeting
January 7, 2021

FRANKLIN SS:

To the Constables of the Town of Orange, in the County of Franklin:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote on Town affairs, to meet at Orange Town Hall, Ruth B. Smith Auditorium, 6 Prospect Street, in said Orange, on Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: CEMETERY SALE OF LOTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize payment of \$425.00 from the Cemetery Sale of Lots account to Troy Duguay, 10 Glenwood Ave, Orange, MA 01364 to buy back his lot, Lot 19, Block 19, Space 3 in South Cemetery; or take any other action relative to.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 2: COMMUNITY STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to accept the fourth paragraph of G.L. c. 40, Sec. 5B and, consistent with the authority set forth therein, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund to be known as the Community Stabilization Fund, the purpose of which is to fund community and economic development activities as recommended by the department of community development and further, to dedicate all of the adult use marijuana local excise tax imposed by the Town pursuant to G.L. c.64N, §3 to the Community Stabilization Fund, for a minimum of three years, effective for fiscal year 2022 beginning on July 1, 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 3: PAYMENT OF FIRE STATION ROOF REPAIR

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from free cash the sum of \$29,560.00 for the first payment on the Fire Station Roof; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 4: TRANSFER FROM AMBULANCE RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate from the Ambulance Receipts reserved for Appropriation account the sum of \$50,000.00 for the 1st payment of the Fire Department Ambulance; or take any action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 5: WORDING CHANGES IN THE WATER DEPARTMENTS RULES & REGULATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to approve changes in the wording of Section 6, Titled *CHARGES*, of the "Rules & Regulations of Orange Water Department", within Section 6.4, Titled *CLAIMS FOR ADJUSTMENT ON BILLS*,

FROM:

"To be considered, all claims for adjustments of water bills must be made within thirty (30) days of the billing date."

To:

"To be considered, all claims for adjustments of water bills must be made within thirty (30) days of the billing date. Requests for fee exclusions are to be submitted in writing to be reviewed by the Board of Water Commissioners (BOWC) during a scheduled commissioner's meeting. Fee exclusions that may apply at the discretion of the BOWC are for special situations (ie: Military Deployment, Community Benefit, Formation of an Estate, etc.).

Finance Committee has no opinion

ARTICLE 6: WATER DEPARTMENT TRANSFER

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$62,000.00 from the Water Department Retained Earnings for the repair of the damaged well pump at Well #2 at 451 West River Street and to rehabilitate the well while the pump is removed for repair in accordance with its Capital Improvement Plan, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

AMOUNT	FROM	TO	FOR
\$62,000	Retained Earnings	Water Articles	To repair damaged well pump and rehabilitate Well #2 while pump is removed for repair

Finance Committee has no opinion

ARTICLE 7: RESCIND BORROWING

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the borrowing authorizations from prior town meetings:

STM 06/17/2019 – Article 3 Wastewater Aeration Blower Replacement – rescind \$200,000

ATM 06/17/2019 – Article 23 Ambulance – rescind \$20,000;

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 8: TRANSFER FROM TRANSFER STATION WINDOW STICKER

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$6,800.00 from the Transfer Station Window Sticker Revenue Account to the Landfill Monitoring/Maintenance Account in accordance with M.G.L. c.44 s28C (f) to pay for expenditures of the cost of monitoring and maintenance of existing inactive landfill or other solid waste facilities; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 9: TRANSFER FROM TRANSFER STATION WINDOW STICKER

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$4,060.00 from the Transfer Station Window Sticker Revenue Account to the Sanitation Wages Account in accordance with M.G.L. c.44 s28C (f) to pay for expenditures of the cost of monitoring and maintenance of existing inactive landfill or other solid waste facilities; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 10: ZONING DISTRICT C REZONING PROPOSAL

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 205, Section II Subsection 2110 of the Town of Orange Zoning Bylaw, by amending the "Official Zoning Map, Orange, Massachusetts" dated April 1, 2017, which said Map is on file with the Town Clerk, by adopting the new district boundary lines shown on the map entitled "Exit 14 Zoning Locus Map 1" to further (1) include all the following parcels in the residential/commercial district zone A(c)- Map 108 -Lots 1-29, Map 108- Lot 70, Map 234-Lot 4, Map 235- Lots 1-4, Map 235- Lots 11-16, Map 239 -Lot 1, Map- 107 Lot 181-westerly portion (total of 43 parcels); and (2) remove the language describing the boundaries of the C district; and (3) change the date of the "official zoning map, Orange, MA referenced therein to 1/7/2020; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee has no opinion

ARTICLE 11: FIRE DEPARTMENT RADIOS


To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$39,000 from Free Cash for the purchase of radio equipment, accessories, programming, and installation to facilitate the migration of emergency radio communications to COMIRS on or about 7/1/2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee Recommends

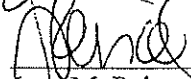
Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 16th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.

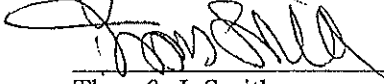
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



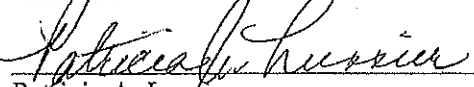
Ryan W. Mailloux



Jane M. Peirce



Thomas J. Smith

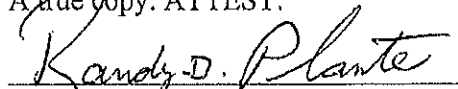


Patricia A. Lussier

Alexandre A. Schwanz

Selectmen, Town of Orange

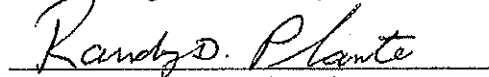
A true copy. ATTEST:



Randy Plante, Constable of Orange

FRANKLIN, SS.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Orange, by posting up attested copies of the same at the Post Office in Orange and the Library in North Orange fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.



Randy Plante, Constable of Orange

12-22-2020
Date